

Who is the Counselor & What Will He Do?

John 16:7-11

¹ Lord Jesus is about to be arrested and die on the cross. He warns His disciples in this last discussion with them that they will feel left alone after He is gone. To suppress their fears, He informs them that when He does leave, they will receive the Counselor, the Holy Spirit. They will not be left alone!

Who is the Counselor, and what will He do? These questions are answered in our passage today. ²

From the Gospel of John, chapter 16, verses 7 through 11, we read, **But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.** ³

I. Who is the Counselor? - v7

Who is the Counselor? Verse 7 says He will come. But Who is He? ⁴

He is the Spirit of truth – the Holy Spirit. ^{1 5}

He **baptized** the first disciples with **supernatural gifts** to perform miracles. The church was established in the Book of Acts with miraculous power. Some claim His baptism today with the same miraculous manifestations. ⁶

He **indwells** you when you surrender your life to the Lord. Acts, chapter 2, verse 38, **Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”** He indwells your life and intermingles with your human spirit to give you power to live a victorious Christian life. ⁷

¹ John 16:13 - But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

He **fills** you when you confess and forsake your sins. Ephesians, chapter 5, verse 18, tells us, **And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.**

None of us live perfect lives as Christians. Each of us usually falls flat on our faces spiritually. We have strong and weak times with our faith.

God's word tells you to **be filled with His Spirit**; to empty out the sin through repentance and confession.

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Then, get refilled through prayer. **If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ⁹

He **gives you spiritual gifts** so you can be an effective servant through the church. ² ₁₀

He **develops in you spiritual fruit** so you can be an effective witness to the world. ³ ₁₁

² I Corinthians 12:8-11.

³ Galatians 5:22-23.

Why did Jesus have to physically leave for the Counselor to come? ⁴ ₁₂

Because **God in One**. He is One, not many!

He takes the form of Father, Son and the Holy Spirit all at the same time. One of the reasons Mohammed, the founder of Islam, rejected the church was the church presented a confused concept of the Trinity! ₁₃

Because **God became a man**. He became a man so you could know what He is like in human terms you could identify with. God had to become a man so He could pay the price for your sins on the cross in a physical body. ₁₄

Because **God became the Holy Spirit**. When His mission as a man was accomplished, He became the indwelling Spirit to extend Himself as many times as there are believers! Now, Lord Jesus is performing His ministry in and through you the same as He did when

⁴ John 16:7 - But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

He was a physical man! The more you yield to the Counselor within you, the more you become like Jesus! ¹⁵

II. What Will He Do? - v8-11

What will He do?

Verses 8 through 11 say, **When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.** ¹⁶

Convict ⁵ means to cross examine, to expose or to convict of a crime. It can also mean to convince someone of a better idea. Here, it probably means to reprove, rebuke or to show someone's fault.

⁵ ἐλέγξει.

Remember the court room scenes of Matlock and Perry Mason on television were the prosecutor confronts a witness. ¹⁷

The Counselor will convict the world of sin. He shows you what the wrong way is! ¹⁸

Sin ⁶ is a falling short, a missing of the mark. The picture is an archer shooting an arrow at a target and missing. So, sin is missing the standard God had planned for you. ¹⁹

The Lord took care of the sin problem by going to the cross! ²⁰ Trust in Jesus is the way God has provided for your sins to be forgiven. ²¹

Part of faith is the acceptance of divine truth. Hebrews, chapter 11, verse 1, says, Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ²² Belief involves trust in Jesus as a reliable person and obedience to Him as Lord. ²³ Therefore,

⁶ αμαρτία.

those who have refused to trust the Lord have rejected God's way out of their sin problem! ²⁴

The Counselor will convict the world concerning righteousness. **He shows you the right way!** ²⁵

Righteousness ⁷ is what is right and just. ²⁶

The Lord demonstrated righteousness by what He taught and the way He lived. ²⁷ Then, He went to the Father through His death and resurrection. ⁸ ²⁸

As God's child, you are considered righteous in God's sight. ⁹ ²⁹ In fact, Romans, chapter 5. verse 19, says, **For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous**. ³⁰ Therefore, those who don't have righteousness through Lord Jesus, don't have it! ³¹

⁷ δικαιοσύνη.

⁸ I Corinthians 15::20-23.

⁹ Romans 5:6-8.

The Counselor will convict the world concerning judgment. **He will do something about it!** ³²

Judgment is the separation from this life into an eternal destiny – either heaven or hell! ³³

The Word of God is the judge of this world. ³⁴

The Word in flesh is the Lord Jesus. He judged Satan and His power over death by dying on the cross. ^{10 35}

The Word in the gospel message is a light that exposes. It becomes the standard by which people are judged. The Gospel of John, chapter 3, verses 19 through 21 says, **This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.** ³⁷

¹⁰ Hebrews 2:14-15.

Therefore, your judgment depends on what you do with the way God has provided! ³⁸

As a Christian who has been indwelt with the Holy Spirit, the Counselor – let Him fill your life so you may be a usable vessel!

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